

His experience has been large and his opinions deserve the careful consideration of all surgeons. The first half of this pamphlet is taken up in a consideration of the development of the bones and cavities of the face. The author shows very graphically by text and illustration the disfigurements of the face resulting from a want of proper development of these bones and cavities. The greatest stress is laid upon the necessity of the early closure of the cleft between the nose and mouth: without such early closure the nasopharynx and its adjacent cavities never reach their normal development. He recommends operation for cleft palate as soon after birth as possible, believing that the day after birth is the best time: it is claimed that at this time little blood is lost and the child has not been reduced in strength by poor nutrition, as is so apt to follow in cases of cleft palate. If a harelip exist it is repaired at the same time, or as soon after as possible, never before the repair of the cleft palate.

The author's operation, as is well known, consists in taking a flap of mucous membrane and periosteum from one side of the cleft and dovetailing it between the mucous membrane and periosteum on the opposite side. He states most emphatically that the dangers of this operation in early life are much less than after the child has reached the age of two or three years. It is also claimed that operations at this period interfere much less with the development of the teeth than those done later.

It is our personal belief that many cases of cleft palate can be cured without operative procedure of any kind or with but slight operative interference. We are certainly convinced that when an immediate operation is not done, as advised by Lane, the parents of the child should be carefully instructed in the method of compressing the two maxillary bones together. If this is done two or three times a day it is wonderful how the cleft can be gradually narrowed or entirely obliterated. In order to be successful, of course, this treatment must be carried out persistently and conscientiously.

J. H. G.

A TEXT-BOOK OF PHYSIOLOGY, NORMAL AND PATHOLOGICAL. FOR STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS OF MEDICINE. By WINFIELD S. HALL, Ph.D. (Leipsig), M.D. (Leipsig), Professor of Physiology, Northwestern University Medical School, etc. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co., 1905.

In this book of something less than eight hundred pages the author has placed before his readers a large amount of information. The sciences allied to physiology, *i. e.*, anatomy, physics, chemistry, and

pathology, are taken up in a much more systematic manner than is usual in works on physiology. Thus brief anatomical and physical introductions are given before each chapter, and the latter parts of most of the chapters are devoted to a summary of the important pathological conditions found in the organs, the discussion of whose normal functions precedes. The reader is struck by the numerous divisions and subdivisions the author has used in his presentation. The work is not exhaustive, and owing to the brevity of the part dealing purely with physiology, some subjects receive less attention than they deserve, and it seems doubtful whether on this account the beginner would get at all times clear conceptions. The book, treating as it does allied subjects rather than confining itself to those of physiology alone, should find more use in the hands of the practitioner as a means of readily refreshing the memory than as a text-book for students, as the book does not follow the usual plan of instruction as taught in any one course in most medical schools. It is well printed and the illustrations are numerous and well chosen.

G. C. R.

THE READY REFERENCE HANDBOOK OF DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

By GEORGE THOMAS JACKSON, M.D., Chief of Clinic and Instructor in Dermatology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York; Consulting Dermatologist to the Presbyterian Hospital and to the New York Infirmary for Women and Children; Member of the American Dermatological Association and of the New York Dermatological Society. With ninety-one illustrations and three plates. Fifth edition, thoroughly revised. New York and Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co.

THIS new edition of Dr. Jackson's well-known manual of diseases of the skin contains a considerable number of new sections, almost all of which are devoted to the consideration of uncommon and, for the most part, only recently described affections. The term *tuberculide*, recently introduced by the French, and adopted by a considerable number of other writers to indicate a class of eruptions associated with, if not dependent upon, tuberculosis, is somewhat to our surprise omitted. The alphabetical arrangement of subjects is still employed, an arrangement which, while open to decided objection from a scientific point of view, is a very useful one in facilitating reference to any particular disease.

The additions to and alterations of the text bring the book well up to date, and it continues to be, as it has long been, one of the most useful among the smaller treatises, especially for the student.

M. B. H.